

Claims

What is claimed is:

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1. A tagging and tracking system, comprising:

an electromagnetic transmitter having an output;

10 a modulating tag embedding an information signal on a
reflection of the output from the electromagnetic transmitter,
wherein the modulating tag includes a tamper proof system;

a receiver for receiving the reflection having the information
signal, the receiver having a received output; and

15 a processor coupled to the received output for decoding the
information signal.

2. The system of claim 1, further including a database
coupled to the processor.

20 3. The system of claim 1, wherein the information signal is
a periodic signal.

4. The system of claim 1, wherein the information signal is
modulated at a frequency higher than a probable Doppler shift.

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5. The system of claim 4, wherein the information signal is a polarization modulated signal.

5 6. The system of claim 1, wherein the modulating tag has a battery for power.

7. The system of claim 6, wherein the modulating tag includes an integrated circuit that drives a plurality of switches that
10 create the information signal.

8. A tagging and tracking system, comprising:

15 a plurality of modulating tags each attached to one of a plurality of mobile units;

 a plurality of electromagnetic transmitters positioned in a plurality of key locations;

 a plurality of receivers, one of the plurality of receivers
20 receiving a reflected signal from one of the plurality of modulating tags; and

 a database coupled to the plurality of receivers comparing the reflected signal to a predetermined signal.

25 9. The system of claim 8, wherein the reflected signal is a phase modulated signal.

10. The system of claim 8, wherein the reflected signal defines a unique identifier for one of the plurality of modulating tags.

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11. The system of claim 10, wherein the database contains an associated group of information related to the unique identifier.

12. The system of claim 8, wherein the plurality of mobile units are motor vehicles.

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13. The system of claim 12, wherein the plurality of modulating tags are each a license tag.

14. The system of claim 13, wherein the plurality of key locations are traffic choke points in a city.

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15. A tagging and tracking system, comprising:

5 a plurality of modulating tags attached to a plurality of mobile units, each of the plurality of tags capable of modulating a polarization of a received signal;

an electromagnetic transmitter having an output capable of being pointed at one of the plurality of modulating tags;

an electromagnetic receiver receiving a reflected signal from one of the plurality of modulating tags; and

10 a processor uniquely identifying the one of the plurality of modulating tags.

16. The system of claim 15, further including a database coupled to the processor, wherein the database contains an
15 information associated with the one of the plurality of modulating tags.

17. The system of claim 15, wherein one of the plurality of modulating tags has been tampered with and reflects a tampered
20 signal.

18. The system of claim 15, wherein each of the plurality of modulating tags has a tamper proof system.

25 19. The system of claim 18, wherein the information signal is a periodic signal.

20. The system of claim 19, wherein the information signal has a frequency that is higher than a probable Doppler shift.